UNITED
NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

ST/IC/1991/38
3 June 1991

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of the staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management

Subject: UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR THE REFERENDUM IN WESTERN SAHARA (MINURSO)

1. On 29 April 1991 the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 690 (1991), by which it decided to establish a United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). The deployment of staff to the Mission area is scheduled to commence sometime in August/September 1991, with the referendum due to be completed early in 1992.

2. MINURSO will be responsible for the organization and supervision, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, in accordance with the objectives defined in the Secretary-General's report on the situation concerning Western Sahara (S/22464).

3. Essentially, the implementation plan outlined in the Secretary-General's report and approved by the Security Council entrusts to the United Nations sole and exclusive responsibility over all matters relating to the conduct of the referendum. MINURSO will be composed of civilian, military and security units and will, among other tasks, verify the reduction of Moroccan forces in the Territory to an agreed level; monitor the confinement of troops from both parties in designated locations; ensure the release of all Saharan political prisoners and detainees and the exchange of prisoners-of-war; identify and register all qualified voters; and ensure a free and impartial referendum.

4. The Mission as currently envisaged will entail the deployment of staff members, who would comprise a major portion of the civilian component, to various locations in the Territory. As is typical of mission service, staff members may be required to work under difficult conditions involving some degree of physical hardship and must be prepared to undertake an assignment in any part of the Territory.

5. Staff members with backgrounds in legal and political affairs and public information will be required, as well as in the usual range of administrative functions, including accounting, electronic data processing, finance, personnel, procurement and general administration. Adaptability, team spirit and good judgement will be particularly important. A working knowledge of one or more of the languages of the Territory, i.e., Arabic, French and Spanish will be a requirement for most assignments.

6. It is expected that mission assignments will average from five to seven months in most cases. There will also be some assignments of approximately three weeks' duration for polling officers, presiding officers and counting officers at the actual time of the referendum.

7. Staff members interested in being considered for assignment to MINURSO are requested to complete the attached application for mission assignment and return it as soon as possible to:

Field Operations Division
Room S-2227A
Office of General Services
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017
Fax No.: (212) 963-0664

8. Those staff members who have indicated in the past, either orally or in writing, their wish to be assigned to a mission are requested to reapply using the attached application for mission assignment.

9. Staff members at duty stations away from Headquarters should submit their applications by facsimile. The selection of staff members, including the duration of their assignments, will be subject to release by their parent departments/offices and to medical clearance.

APPLICATION FOR MISSION ASSIGNMENT

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

FAMILY NAME		FIRST NAME		INDEX NO.	SEX
CATEGORY/LEVEL	FUNCTIONAL TITLE	DEPARTMENT/OFFICE		ROOM NO.	TELEPHONE NO./EXT
ORGANIZATION	DUTY STATION	DATE OF BIRTH (D/M/Y) / /	PLACE OF BIRTH		
COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY	EOD DATE (D/M/Y) / /	TYPE OF CONTRACT	EXPIRY DATE (D/M/Y) / /		

2. SKILLS

LANGUAGES	MOTHER TONGUE:	READ	WRITE	SPEAK	UNDERSTAND

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES: Arabic [ ] Chinese [ ] English [ ] French [ ] Russian [ ] Spanish [ ]

Clerical: English ( ) French ( ) Other (specify) _____
Typing: English ( ) French ( ) Other (specify) _____
Shorthand: English ( ) French ( ) Other (specify) _____
Word-processing: _____
Database/Spreadsheets: _____
Other: _____
Driver's License: Yes [ ] No [ ]

3. UNITED NATIONS WORK EXPERIENCE

	Please check	Dates and Remarks
Accounts/Finance		
Budget		
Economics		
Electronic Data Processing		
Human Rights		
Legal		
Personnel: Administration		
Personnel: Recruitment		
Political Affairs		
Pouch/Registry		
Procurement/Inventory/Supply		
Public Information		
Social Affairs		
Travel/Shipping		
Other (specify)		

MISSION(S) BEING APPLIED FOR:	PREVIOUS MISSION ASSIGNMENT(S): Include functional title.

Indicate period and earliest date of availability: _____

4. REMARKS: _____

(For additional space, please use reverse of this form or attach a separate sheet.)

Date: _____ Signature: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO: Field Operations Division/OGS, Room S-2227A, United Nations, New York, New York 10017, FAX: (212) 963-0664